1744

Docket No. ASP-21

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Robert C. Platt JR., et. al.

Serial No. : 09/812,148

Art Unit: 1744

Filed

: March 19, 2001

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For

: STERILIZATION SYSTEM EMPLOYING A SWITCHING MODULE ADAPTED TO PULSATE THE LOW FREQUENCY POWER APPLIED

TO A PLASMA

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

1-14-04 (Date of Deposit)

Andrew C. Farmer
(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)

(Signature)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

. This copy is supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statement mailed on September 13, 2001, July 26, 2002, August 8, 2002, and August 22, 2002.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98, information relating to the above-identified application is hereby disclosed. Inclusion of information in this statement is not to be construed as an admission that this information is material as that term is defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist.

In accordance with $\S1.97(b)$, since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed either within three months of the filing date of the above-identified national application (other than a continued prosecution application under $\S1.53(d)$), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of the above identified application as set forth in $\S1.491$, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits of the above-identified application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, no additional fee is required. In accordance with §1.129(a), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in connection with [] the first or second After Final Submission, therefore: Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e) (attached); or Please charge Deposit Account No. 10-П the fee of \$180.00 as set forth / in $\S1.17(p)$. In accordance with $\S1.97(c)$, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the period set forth

in §1.97(b) above but before the mailing date of either a Final

Action under §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution and that it is accompanied by one of: Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e) (attached); or Please charge Deposit Account No. 10-the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in $\S1.17(p)$. In accordance with §1.97(d), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of either a Final Action under §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under $\S1.311$ but before the payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement. Included are: Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e) as set forth below and the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in $\S1.17(p)$. \boxtimes Copies of each of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith. Copies of references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith EXCEPT THAT: In view of the voluminous nature of references [list as appropriate], and the likelihood that these references are available to the Examiner, copies are not enclosed herewith. If any of the foregoing publications are not П available to the Examiner, Applicant will endeavor to supply copies at the Examiner's request.

Copies of only foreign patent documents and non-
patent literature are enclosed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98
(a)(2). (The U.S. patents and each U.S. patent application
publication listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are not
enclosed because this U.S. patent application was filed after
June 30, 2003 or this international application has entered the
national stage under 35 USC §371 after June 30, 2003 (see USPTO
waiver of requirement under 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i).
There are no listed references which are not in the English language.
The relevance of those listed references which are not in the English language is as follows:
corresponding patent application(s), which are listed on the
attached Submission Under MPEP 609 D.
Copies of the references listed on the search
report(s) are included except for those previously cited in an
IDS mailed September 13, 2001, July 26, 2002, August 8, 2002,
and August 22, 2002.
Attached are the following non-published pending
patent applications which may be deemed relevant, which are
listed on the attached Submission Under MPEP 609 D.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 10-0750/ASP-21/ACF. This form is submitted in triplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew 2. Farmer Reg. No. 35,868

Attorney for Applicants

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DATED: /-/4-04

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary) Sheet 1 of 1

٥	a collection of information unless it displays a valid ONB control trained:					
٦	Application Number	09/812,148				
Ì	Filing Date	March 19, 2001				
	First Named Inventor	Robert C. Platt, JR.				
	Group Art Unit	1744				
	Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned				
	Attorney Docket Number	ASP-21				
	Allomey Locker Number	701 21				

		(#Immum\			Date of Publication	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
Examiner Initials	Cite			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	
		5,565,737	А	Keane Anthony Richard Alan	10-15-1996	
		6,921,999	B1	Kondo Kazuki, et. al.	09-18-2001	·
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Pages, Columns, Lines, **Date of Publication** Foreign Patent Document where relevant of Cited Document Name of Patentee or passages or relevant mm-dd-yyyy Applicant of Cited Document Examiner Cite figures appear Number⁴ KindCode⁵ Initials Office³ No.1 04-03-2002 1 192 953 Ethicon, Inc. ΕP

		Date		
Examiner	•	Considered	ì	
Signature		CONSIDERED		

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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. 2 See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. e Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.



SUBMISSION UNDER MPEP 609 D

Application Number	09/812,148
	March 19, 2001
Filing Date	Robert C. Platt, JR.
First Named Inventor	1744
Group Art Unit	
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	ASP-21

		Page 1 of 1	Attorney Docket Number			A0. 2.	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS U.S. Patent Document U.S. Patent Document							
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Examiner	Cite	Name of Patentee or Applicant Cite of Cited Document		mber	Kind Code ² (if known)		where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Pages, Columns, Lines, Foreign Patent Document where relevant passages or relevant figures Name of Patentee or appear Number⁴ KindCode⁵ Applicant of Cited Document Cite Office³ Examiner Initials No.1 OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS
Include name of the author (in CAPITOL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published T² Cite No.1 Examiner EPO Search Report dated November 26, 2003 for EPO APPL. NO. EP 03 25 63 21

		Date	
Examiner		Considered	
Signature	والمراوية		